

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): IWASAKI, et al.

Filed: November 6, 2001

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE WITH LAYERED  
INTERCONNECT STRUCTURE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

November 6, 2001

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination thereof,

as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 1, between the title and the heading "BACKGROUND OF THE  
INVENTION", please add the following new paragraph:

--This application is a Continuation application of application Serial No.  
09/255,856, filed February 23, 1999, the contents of which are incorporated herein  
by reference in their entirety.--

REMARKS

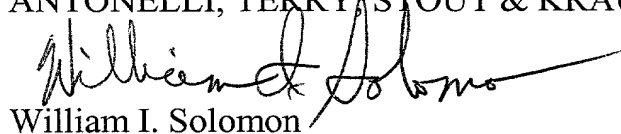
Applicants have amended their specification in order to refer to prior application Serial No. 09/255,856, filed February 23, 1999, consistent with the requirements of 35 USC 120, and to incorporate the contents thereof herein by reference. clearly, this amendment of the specification does not add new matter to the application.

Entry of the present amendment, and examination of the above-identified application in due course, are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 501.36931CX1) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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